

**From:** Moore, Nikki  
**To:** [Bowman, Randal](#)  
**Cc:** [John Ruhs](#); [Michael Nedd](#); [Peter Mali](#); [Kathleen Benedetto](#); [McAlear, Christopher](#); [Sally Butts](#); [Timothy Fisher](#); [Timothy Spisak](#); [Matthew Allen](#); [Aaron Moody](#); [Kristin Bail](#); [Karen Kelleher](#); [Rawhouser, Deborah](#); [Raymond M Suazo](#); [Kenneth Mahoney](#)  
**Subject:** Vermillion Cliffs NM Initial Data Request Exec Summary, Data Summary, New Information Request Responses  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 06, 2017 7:36:02 AM  
**Attachments:** [Vermilion Cliffs Data Summary 6\\_5\\_2017 \(1\).docx](#)  
[Vermilion Cliffs Executive Summary 6\\_5\\_2017 \(1\).docx](#)  
[Vermilion Cliffs New Information Request 6\\_5\\_2017 \(2\).docx](#)

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Hi Randy,

We have completed our review of the initial responses provided in response to the April 26, 2017 Executive Order 13792 and initial data request for the Vermilion Cliffs National Monument. Please find attached an executive summary and data summary. These two summary documents along with the requested data and supporting sources of information have been uploaded to the respective Google Drive folder for the Vermilion Cliffs National Monument.

Per your request, I have also attached the responses to the new, additional information requested in a word document. ("Vermilion Cliffs\_New Information Request\_6\_2\_2017")

Nikki Moore  
Acting Deputy Assistant Director  
National Conservation Lands and Community Partnerships  
Bureau of Land Management, Washington D.C.  
202.219.3180 (office)  
202.740.0835 (cell)

## Call for Data Related to Review of National Monuments under EO 13792 (April 26, 2017)

### Vermilion Cliffs National Monument (VCNM)

#### 1. Documents Requested

- Resource Management Plans/Land Use Plans

The 2008 VCNM Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final EIS is in the [1a\\_RMP\\_LUP](#) folder on this drive.

- Record of Decision

The VCNM RMP Record of Decision (ROD) is in the [1b\\_ROD](#) folder on this drive.

- Public Scoping Documents

VCNM RMP scoping documents are in the [1c\\_Public\\_Scaping\\_Docs](#) folder on this drive.

- Presidential Proclamation

The VCNM Presidential Proclamation is in the [1d\\_Proclamation](#) folder on this drive.

#### 2. Information on activities permitted at the Monument, including annual levels of activity from the **date of designation to the present**. Designation date is November 2, 2000.

- Recreation - annual visits to site

In 2016, 275,845 visitors came to VCNM. VCNM uses the Recreation Management Information System (RMIS) to report visitor use, by calculating use data from multiple traffic counters and permits. BLM's RMIS is generally accepted as the agency's official record, however, RMIS was not used until 2004. Prior to 2004, VCNM aggregated data from the Arizona Strip Field Office.

Fiscal Year	Visitor Numbers	Remarks
2016	275,845	
2015	188,881	
2014	160,568	
2013	168,917	
2012	119,555	
2011	77,853	
2010	39,886	
2009	60,428	
2008	48,038	
2007	79,003	
2006	29,568	
2005	48,016	
2004	39,093	
2003	45,329	
2002	39,934	

2001	41,884	Monument Designation, November 9, 2000
2000	39,702	
1999	39,704	
1998	42,185	
1997	43,258	
1996	42,349	
1995	42,834	

- b. Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)

None, there are no renewable resources or known coal, oil and gas resources within the Monument. Refer to the spreadsheet titled [Land Use Authorizations.xlsx](#) on this Drive.

- c. Minerals-annual mineral production on site

Locatable minerals – No production has occurred. Active mining claims are subject to valid existing rights.

Salable Minerals – An estimated 1,000 cubic yards per year of gravel is used from existing material sites by the BLM for road maintenance. No new permits or sales contracts were issued.

There are no mineral developments or processing facilities adjacent to or impacted by the National Monument designation.

- d. Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)

There is no annual timber production of the pinyon pine and juniper community. The RMP ROD contains the following decisions related to timber:

MA-VM-06: No areas are allocated to sustained yield timber harvest.

MA-VM-10: Gathering of dead and downed wood for campsite use is authorized in areas where campfires are allowed.

MA-VM-11: The Monument is closed to the sale of vegetative products.

MA-VM-12: The BLM will authorize limited harvest of posts and/or poles for on-site administrative purposes.

MA-VM-13: Salvage of vegetation that will be destroyed through surface disturbing activities may be authorized where doing so assists in achieving DPCs [Desired Plant Communities]. Salvage and use will be allowed in the following priority (may require a permit from the State of Arizona):

- Removal and maintenance for replanting during rehabilitation of the site being disturbed.
- Removal and transplanting out of the area to be disturbed, especially to an area needing rehabilitation.
- Removal and salvage by private individuals or to benefit the public (includes schools, churches, nonprofit organizations).

Personal use fuelwood cutting of pinyon pine and juniper trees is the only activity related to timber prior to the RMP and ROD being implemented in January 29, 2008, seven years post-monument designation. The quantity of personal use fuelwood removed is unknown.

d. Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)

The AUMs permitted and sold on VCNM from designation to present are shown on the spreadsheet titled Grazing AUMs Permitted and Billed VCNM.xlsx on this Drive.

Numbers of AUMs vary based on how they are calculated with respect to allotment boundaries, billing offices of record, and available Geographic Information System (GIS) data. The total billed AUMs reported do not exclusively fall within the monument, because the allotment boundaries encompass both Vermillion Cliffs and Arizona Strip Field Office lands.

Sum of Billed AUMs						
Bill Allotment Number	Bill Allotment Name	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
AZ04847	BUNTING WELL	445	305	538	435	295
AZ05327	COYOTE	864	820	922	924	714
AZ05328	SAND HILLS	2162	2332	2727	702	1734
AZ05331	HOUSE ROCK	1240	1417	1514	1424	1499
AZ05332	SOAP CREEK	1331	1363	1643	1560	671
AZ05336	FERRY SWALE	1255	1469	1594	1300	225
AZ05337	LEE'S FERRY					
AZ05341	BADGER CREEK					
AZ05350	SIGNATURE ROCK	359	70	259	281	339
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>6593</b>	<b>7367</b>	<b>7965</b>	<b>9219</b>	<b>6684</b>

e. Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available

There are no known true subsistence activities occurring on VCNM or prior to its designation. VCNM does provide for the collection of pinyon pine seeds (pine nuts) for

non-commercial, personal use. Personal use quantities of items necessary for traditional, religious, or ceremonial purposes, such as herbals, medicines or traditional use items are also allowed. Licensed Hunter/Fishing data is available from the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The entire VCNM is open for hunting and fishing and is regulated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

- f. Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available  
All cultural sites are generally allocated to Scientific Use, other than the few Public Use sites (five and Sun Valley Mine). The number of sites recorded in VCNM from 2000 - Present: 350 sites.

3. Information on activities occurring during the **5 years prior to designation**

- a. Recreation - annual visits to site

VCNM uses the Recreation Management Information System (RMIS) to report visitor use, calculated by using data from multiple traffic counters and permits. BLM's RMIS is generally accepted as the agency's official record, however, RMIS was not used until 2004. Prior to 2004, VCNM aggregated data from the Arizona Strip Field Office.

Fiscal Year	Visitor Numbers	Remarks
2001	41,884	Monument Designation, November 9, 2000
2000	39,702	
1999	39,704	
1998	42,185	
1997	43,258	
1996	42,349	
1995	42,834	

- b. Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)

None, there are no renewable resources or known coal, oil and gas resources within the Monument. Refer to the spreadsheet titled Land Use Authorizations.xlsx on this Drive.

- c. Minerals-annual mineral production on site

Locatable minerals – No production occurred during that time and there were no exploration notices or mine plans of operations.

Salable Minerals – An estimated 1,000 cubic yards per year of gravel was used by the BLM for road maintenance.

- d. Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)  
Timber resources in the area are not of a nature to support commercial production. No commercial timber production occurred in the area that became VCNM in the five years prior to designation. Fuelwood cutting of pinyon pine and juniper for non-commercial, personal use occurred but was not monitored and recorded.
- e. Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)  
The AUMs permitted and sold on VCNM five years prior to designation are shown on the spreadsheet titled Grazing AUMs Permitted and Billed\_VCNM.xlsx on this Drive.
- f. Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available  
There are no known true subsistence activities occurring on VCNM or prior to its designation. VCNM does provide for the collection of pinyon pine seeds (pine nuts) for non-commercial, personal use. Personal use quantities of items necessary for traditional, religious, or ceremonial purposes, such as herbals, medicines or traditional use items are also allowed. Licensed hunters/fishermen data are available from the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The entire VCNM is open for hunting and fishing, which is regulated by the Arizona Game and Fish Department.
- g. Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available  
The number of sites recorded in VCNM from 1995-2000: 14 sites.

4. (b) (5)

A large rectangular area of the page is completely blacked out, indicating redaction under the Freedom of Information Act's (FOIA) exemption (b)(5). This redaction covers the majority of the page below the question number, from approximately y=545 to y=895.

c. (b) (5)



5. Changes to boundaries – dates and changes in size

No changes to the VCNM boundaries have been made.

6. Public Outreach prior to Designation – outreach activities conducted and opportunities for public comment

Public outreach was conducted during the summer of 2000 with various participants. It included meetings with affected ranchers, community leaders, the Page Chamber of Commerce and business owners in the Marble Canyon and Jacob Lake Areas. Documents providing information about VCNM outreach have been placed in the folder titled 6 Public Outreach on this drive.

7. Terms of Designation

Refer to the terms of designation found in the VCNM Proclamation in the 1d Proclamation folder on this Drive.

## **Executive Summary of Review of National Monuments under EO 13792 (April 26, 2017)**

### **Key Information about Vermilion Cliffs National Monument**

Vermilion Cliffs National Monument (VCNM) was established by Presidential Proclamation 7374 on November 9, 2000 consisting of 293,000 acres. Prior to designation, the area was managed by the BLM and continues to be following designation. The Proclamation designated “approximately 293,000 acres” and states that acreage is “the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.” The BLM manages for multiple use within the Monument (hunting, recreation, and grazing, etc.), while protecting the vast array of historic and scientific resources identified in the Proclamation and providing opportunities for scientific study of those resources. The resources identified in the Proclamation include:

- Geology - Sandstone slick rock, rolling plateaus, and brilliant cliffs with arches, amphitheaters, and massive walls.
- Cultural and Historic Resources - Archaeological evidence displaying a long and rich human history spanning more than 12,000 years. Historic resources, including evidence of early European exploration, ranches, homesteads, mines, and roads.
- Wilderness - The Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness is a remote and unspoiled landscape with limited travel corridors along the Utah-Arizona border. A majority of the wilderness lies within Vermilion Cliffs National Monument.
- Vegetation – Cold desert flora and warm desert grassland.
- Wildlife – California condor, bighorn sheep, mountain lion, pronghorn antelope, raptors and desert stream fishes.
- Paria River – The Paria River and widely scattered ephemeral water sources and springs.

Overall, multiple use activities compatible with the protection of resources and objects identified in the Presidential Proclamation are allowed in Vermilion Cliffs National Monument. Multiple use activities are subject to decisions made in current and future BLM resource management planning efforts, which include public participation. National Monuments and other conservation areas managed by the BLM continue to allow for multiple uses according to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

### **Summary of Public Engagement Prior to Designation**

The Secretary of the Interior met with the public in meetings and in the field prior to VCNM designation.

### **Summary of Public Scoping in Development of Resource Management Plan**

Public scoping for the RMP was initiated in April 2002 with publication of a notice of intent in the federal register. Public scoping consisted of 11 open house meetings in 2002, meetings with

American Indian Tribes, several community-based workshops and publication of planning bulletins. A total of 2,219 comment letters were received as a result of public scoping. The main issues of concern identified during scoping were transportation and access, wilderness, protection of resources, livestock grazing and recreation.

### **Summary of National Monument Activities since Designation**

Included below are some of the activities since designation:

- In FY2016, 275,845 visitors came to VCNM. In FY2015, 188,881 visitors came to VCNM.
- There are no renewable resources or known coal, oil and gas resources within the Monument.
- No oil and gas production has occurred. Active mining claims are subject to valid existing rights. No new permits or sales contracts have been issued.
- There is no annual timber production of the pinyon pine and juniper community.
- All cultural sites are generally allocated to Scientific Use, other than the few Public Use sites (five and Sun Valley Mine). The number of sites recorded in VCNM from 2000 - Present: 350 sites.

Refer to the document titled [Initial Data Request Related to Review of National Monuments VCNM.docx](#) in the Drive folder for a summary of activities since designation.

### **Summary of Activities in Area for Five years Preceding Pre-Designation**

Included below are some of the activities five years prior to designation:

- In FY 2000, there were 39,702 visitors to VCNM and 41,884 visitors in FY 2001.
- There were no renewable resources or known coal, oil and gas resources within the area designated as the VCNM.
- No production occurred during in the five years preceding designation. No new permits or sales contracts were issued during this time.
- The number of sites recorded in VCNM from 1995-2000: 14 sites.

Refer to the document titled [Initial Data Request Related to Review of National Monuments VCNM.docx](#) in the Drive folder for a summary of activities prior to designation.

### **Summary of Available Economic Information since Designation**

According to the Bureau of Land Management's economic analysis for FY2016 information, total visitor spending at VCNM was \$16,386,713. The total non-BLM jobs supported by the Monument is 246 with a total labor income supported of \$8,488,479. This resulted in a total economic output supported by the Monument of \$23,322,486.

Refer to the [Vermilion Cliffs NM – Economic Snapshot.pdf](#) document in the Drive folder for the summary.

### **Summary of Any Boundary Adjustments since Designation**

No changes to the VCNM boundaries have been made since designation.

**June 5, 2017**  
**New Information Requested on Executive Order on the Review  
of Designations Under the Antiquities Act**

**BLM Responses to Additional Questions for Vermilion Cliffs National Monument (VCNM)**

- a) Any legislative language, including legislation in appropriations bills

There is no legislative language associated with the VCNM designation. However, the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness which is located within the monument boundary, was designated by the Arizona Wilderness Act of 1984 - Public Law 98-406.

- b) (b) (5) [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

- c) Designated wilderness areas (name, acreage), Wilderness Study Areas (name if there is one, acreage, type), and/or areas managed to preserve wilderness or roadless characteristics that are not WSAs.

Designated Wilderness: Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness, 265,598 acres

Wilderness Study Areas: None

Areas managed to protect wilderness characteristics: 37,566 acres (White Pocket, Bush Head, Shed Valley, One Toe Ridge, White Knolls).

- d) Outstanding R.S. 2477 claims within a monument – type of road claimed and history  
There are no R.S. 2477 claims within the VCNM.

- e) Maps

Please refer to the following maps located in the Drive folder:

- [VCNM\\_map\\_12x9\\_20160705\\_1700\\_750dpi\\_Q95](#)
- [VCNM - Visitor Brochure Map 17x23](#)

f) (b) (5)



g) Other – general questions or comments

No additional information.